



- *brother Alvaro*

Let us set out on a pilgrimage of the heart,  
Wandering in the wilderness,  
Learning how to dance<sup>1</sup>  
- from our song, *Pilgrimage of the Heart*

I like to think that in these sixty years,  
brothers here at the priory  
have been engaged in daily learning,  
a daily practice of a communal dance.

Not fighting, not dancing against the flow,  
nor simply following the flow.  
Not flowing in a passive repetition of the past,  
nor rejecting the teachings of good dance traditions.

Not struggling to be unique or different,  
nor searching to do what has always been done—  
simply an alternative way of dancing,  
a circle dance, and an open circle.

I saw the movement, listened to the rhythm,  
and joined the dance.  
That was ten years ago,  
but every day we learn how to dance anew. ■

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<sup>1</sup>Song from the recording *Pilgrimage of the Heart*, © 2007, The Benedictine Foundation of the State of Vermont, Inc.